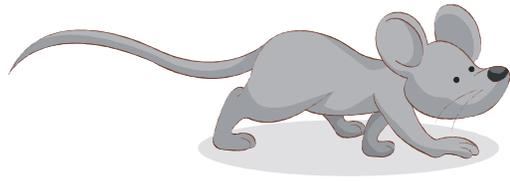


Rodent Prevention Measures

Rodent activity causes damage to homes and food supplies each year. They can also spread diseases to humans directly, from bites or contaminated food, or indirectly from ticks and fleas. Take precautions and prevent rodent attraction by practicing the following measures.

Identifying Rodent Infestations

- Notice rodent droppings near food, in drawers, or under the sink
- Find nesting material like shredded paper or plant matter
- Notice gnawing on food packages
- Find holes or entry ways into the home
 - rat burrows are holes in the soil approximately the size of a baseball



Prevention Measures

- Make sure all garbage is sealed properly without any spillage or overloading
- Seal openings where entry points for rodents may be located – under porches, for example
- Keep grass short and remove weeds
- Avoid throwing bird food or scraps of crackers, bread, etc. outside
- Keep bird feeders away from the house
- Clean animal feces regularly
- Store food in proper containers with tight lids
- Keep compost bins (for leaves, grass and garden material) away from the house and elevate any woodpiles at least 1 foot above the ground

Source: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/controlling/rodents.htm>
http://www.cdc.gov/rodents/prevent_infestations/clean_up.html